

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A handheld device having a user interface capable of selection of mathematical object of a more complex mathematical object comprising:
  - a screen capable of displaying at mathematical objects and a cursor;
  - a key panel having keys at least capable of selecting positions of said cursor and moving said cursor horizontally or vertically on said screen;
  - a processor for executing programming that provides a user interface to allow a user to perform the following steps:
    - a) scroll the cursor to a valid mathematical object in a history display,
    - b) activate a sub-expression mode having a selection box,
    - c) size and position the selection box over a valid object, and
    - d) copy the object.
2. The handheld device of Claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed to size and position the selection box using only directional keys and modifier keys.
- 3 The handheld device of Claim 1, wherein said processor is further programmed to paste the copied object.
- 4 The handheld device of Claim 3 wherein said processor is further programmed to allow the user to use the copied object in other mathematical applications.

5. A graphing calculator having a user interface capable of selection of mathematical object of a “more complex” mathematical object comprising:

- a screen capable of displaying at mathematical objects and a cursor;
- a key panel having keys at least capable of selecting positions of said cursor and moving said cursor horizontally or vertically on said screen;
- a processor for executing programming that provides a user interface to allow a user to perform the following steps:

- a) scroll the cursor to a valid mathematical object in a history display,
- b) activate a sub-expression mode having a selection box,
- c) size and position the selection box over a valid mathematical object, and
- d) copy the object, and
- e) paste the copied object.

6. The graphing calculator of Claim 5 wherein said processor is further programmed to size and position the selection box using only directional keys and modifier keys.

7. The graphing calculator of Claim 5 wherein said processor is further programmed to allow the user to use the copied object in other mathematical applications.

8. The graphing calculator of Claim 6, wherein said processor is further programmed to allow the user to use the copied object in other mathematical applications.

9. A software user interface for a graphing calculator having an input display with mathematical objects which allows a user to perform the following steps:

- a) scroll a cursor to a mathematical object in a history display,
- b) activating a sub-expression mode having a selection box,
- c) sizing and positioning the selection box over a mathematical object, and
- d) copying the mathematical object.

10. The user interface of Claim 9, wherein said processor is further programmed to allow the user to use the copied object in other mathematical applications

11. The user interface of Claim 9, wherein said processor is further programmed to allow the user to use directional keys to size and position the selection box over any object of the more complex mathematical object.